

WGCU
Fort Myers, FL
PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report
October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

American History/Biography

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/2/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:03:16

As the coronavirus pandemic drags on into the fall, we remember the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have passed away from the virus. Here are a few of their stories.

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Abandoning the Titanic
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/4/2020 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Join a team of investigators as they search for the identity of the captain of a "mystery ship" that turned away from the "unsinkable" Titanic in its darkest hour, abandoning thousands of lives to the icy waters and their deaths.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 115
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/8/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:03:51

The first man to break the sound barrier, Chuck Yeager died on Monday in California at the age of 97. John Yang has the story.

Culture

Series Title: Generation Nation: A PBS American Portrait Story
Length: 30 minutes
Airdate: 10/27/2020 4:30:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 00:30:00

Explore how people in different age groups see themselves and their place in the America. Through self-shot video, they share common experiences that bind age groups together and generational differences that put them at odds with one another.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/9/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:02:28

Alex Trebek was known to millions the world over for hosting the TV game show "Jeopardy!" Diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer, he continued taping programs until recently, with the final episode of "Jeopardy!" due to air on Christmas. The Canadian-born Trebek was beloved for his dignity and demeanor through 37 years and more than 8,000 episodes of the show. Jeffrey Brown has our remembrance.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/2/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:02:48

Many Americans will carefully weigh the risks when deciding whether to gather together or travel for the holidays amid a global pandemic. Maria Konnikova, poker player and author of "The Biggest Bluff," shares her humble opinion on how to balance luck and skill.

Environment/Nature/Natural Disasters

Series Title: Hawaii: Islands of Wonder
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/1/2020 12:00:00 AM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

The 3-part ISLANDS OF WONDER series takes viewers on a journey to the most exotic, mysterious and remote islands on Planet Earth: Madagascar, Borneo and Hawaii. These isolated and iconic tropical islands are home to remarkable wildlife and human castaways found nowhere else on earth. The fragile islands also serve as a vital gauge for the planet's health.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Hagia Sophia - Istanbul's Ancient Mystery
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/18/2020 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:00:00

Istanbul's magnificent Hagia Sophia has survived on one of the world's most active seismic faults, which has inflicted a dozen devastating earthquakes since Hagia Sophia was built in 537 AD. As Istanbul braces for the next big quake, a team of architects and engineers is investigating Hagia Sophia's seismic secrets. NOVA follows the team's discoveries as they examine the building's unique structure and other ingenious design strategies that have insured the dome's survival. The engineers build a massive eight-ton model of the building's core structure, place it on a motorized shake table and hit it with a series of simulated quakes.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 122
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/17/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:06:22

President-elect Biden has said that tackling climate change, the environment and green energy are top priorities for his administration. And so far, his team appears to be a mix of some familiar faces and some not-so-familiar faces. John Yang spoke with Amy Harder, an energy and climate reporter for Axios, to learn more.

Family/Marriage

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: DNA Mysteries
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/20/2020 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 01:00:00

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. uses DNA detective work to solve mysteries in the family trees of actor Téa Leoni, and radio host Joe Madison, introducing each of them to parents and grandparents whose names they've never heard before.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Flight
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/17/2020 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. meets actors Scarlett Johansson and Lupita Nyong'o and chef Lidia Bastianich, whose families crisscrossed the globe to escape oppression and find opportunity, leaving them with questions about those who stayed behind.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/1/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:33

The pandemic has accelerated a change in housing in the U.S. that began well before the spread of COVID-19. Millennials, adults between the ages of 24 and 39, continue to move back home with their parents in significant numbers. For some it's by choice, but for many it's a necessity. Special correspondent Catherine Rampell, who is a columnist for The Washington Post, has the story.

Health/Healthcare

Series Title: Amanpour and Company
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/2/2020 11:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-PLUS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Journalists and health experts weigh in on President Trump's positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/2/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:03:09

Several U.S. public health leaders warned this weekend that the coronavirus is spreading unchecked throughout the country -- and likely to become significantly worse in the coming days and weeks. Unlike in the spring and summer, virus cases are rising in 49 of 50 states. William Brangham looks at the urgency of the situation with Dr. Ashish Jha, dean of Brown University's School of Public Health.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 132
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/31/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:09:06

Since the first reported case of COVID-19 a little more than a year ago, the pandemic has taken a devastating toll in the U.S. -- far worse than in many other developed countries. Donald G. McNeil Jr., a science and health reporter for The New York Times, joins Judy Woodruff to give some perspective.

Minorities/Civil Rights

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/7/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:05:48

Totaling some 6.8 million people, American Indians and Native Alaskans could play a key role in the upcoming election, especially in Western swing states like Arizona and Nevada. But there are some obstacles in Native communities that make their residents less likely to vote. Stephanie Sy talks to attorney Jacqueline De Leon of the Native American Rights Fund about efforts to change that.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/23/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:06:01

President-elect Joseph Biden on Monday announced the nominations for his national security team, including the first Latino to head the Department of Homeland Security and the first woman to lead the intelligence community. Wendy Sherman, the former undersecretary of state for political affairs during the Obama administration, joins Nick Schiffrin to discuss.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 112
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/6/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:32

More than 1 million Uighurs, an ethnic-Muslim minority in China, are being detained in hundreds of Chinese detention facilities and camps, where there are reports of widespread torture and detentions that have evolved into forced labor. The Department of Homeland Security is now banning products thought to be made in China by forced Uighur labor. Nick Schiffrin reports.

Science/Technology

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/20/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:06:34

The Justice Department is suing Google for allegedly leveraging its market power to block competition illegally. In the most significant challenge to a big tech company in decades, prosecutors say Google pays phone manufacturers to make its search engine users' default, among other charges. Amna Nawaz talks to Dipayan Ghosh of the Harvard Kennedy School's Digital Platforms & Democracy Project.

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Nero's Sunken City
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/11/2020 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 01:00:00

Baiae... An escape for ancient Rome's powerful elite, the Las Vegas of its day. Now, archaeologists are mapping underwater ruins and piecing together what life was like in this playground for the rich.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 123
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/18/2020 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:25

The U.S. cybersecurity team is still trying to determine exactly who is responsible for a major cyberattack in the U.S., with many signs pointing to the Russian government. Microsoft, which has built the systems for a majority of computers in the U.S., said they too have found malicious software on its systems. William Brangham spoke with Brad Smith, president of Microsoft, to learn more.